

Please cancel claim 2 and combine into claim 1:

1. (Currently Amended) An electronically commutated motor having terminals (106,108) for connecting to ~~that is adapted to be powered from an AC voltage source (11);~~ said motor having ~~and that comprises:~~

a stator having at least one winding phase (L1, L2, ... Ln);  
a permanent-magnet rotor magnetically co-acting with that stator;

a rectifier (38) which serves to generate,  
from an AC voltage ( $U_{AC}$ ) at the AC voltage source (11),  
a pulsing DC operating voltage ( $U_B$ );

a DC link circuit (15) having a positive lead (30) and  
a negative lead (32), said pulsing DC voltage from said  
rectifier being applied between said positive and negative leads;

a bridge circuit (28) connected to said positive and  
negative leads of the DC link circuit (15) and serving to supply  
current to the at least one winding phase, said bridge circuit  
including an N-channel MOSFET (52) coupled to said negative lead  
(32) and a P-channel MOSFET (50) coupled to said positive lead  
(30) ~~switch element (50,52) which is controllable by a control~~  
~~voltage ( $U_{ST}$ ) that is lower than the operating voltage ( $U_B$ ) to be~~  
~~applied by said switch element; and~~

an auxiliary circuit (34, 34') for generating,  
from the pulsing DC voltage ( $U_B$ ) at the DC link circuit and  
from the AC voltage ( $U_{AC}$ ), ~~said a~~ control voltage ( $U_{ST}$ ) for  
controlling the ~~switch element~~ P-channel MOSFET (50, 52)  
into a conductive state, said control voltage ( $U_{ST}$ ) being  
lower than the pulsing DC voltage ( $U_B$ ) by an amount  
equal to a predetermined differential voltage ( $U\Delta$ ).

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Currently Amended) The motor according to claim 1, wherein

the auxiliary circuit (34; 34') further comprises a first capacitor (100), serving to generate the control voltage ( $U_{ST}$ ), said capacitor (100) being connected in series with a diode (102) between the positive ~~side~~ lead (30) of the DC link circuit (15) and a first one (106) of said two terminals of said AC voltage source (11).

4. (Original) The motor according to claim 3, further comprising,

connected in parallel with the capacitor (100), a voltage limiter (108) for limiting the voltage at the capacitor (100) to said predetermined differential voltage ( $U_{[Delta]}$ ).

5. (Original) The motor according to claim 4, wherein the voltage limiter is a Zener diode (108).

6. (Original) The motor according to claim 3, further comprising

a resistor (110), connected in parallel with the capacitor (100), which serves to minimize charge oscillations at the capacitor (100) and to minimize any voltage spikes and interference due to electromagnetic radiation.

7. (Original) The motor according to claim 3, further comprising

a further capacitor (104), connected in series with the capacitor (100) and the AC voltage source (11).

8. (Currently Amended) The motor according to claim 3, wherein the auxiliary circuit (34') further comprises:  
a second capacitor (100') for generating the control voltage, said capacitor being connected between the positive ~~side~~ lead (30) of the DC link circuit (15) and a second one (108) of said two terminals of the AC voltage source (11); and  
a second diode (102') connected between the second capacitor (100') and said second one (108) of the two terminals of the AC voltage source (11).

9. (Currently Amended) The motor according to claim 1, further comprising  
a commutation logic unit (20); and  
a plurality of control elements (60, 62) that are driven by said commutation logic unit (20) and which in turn drive the ~~switch element~~ MOSFETs (50, 52).

10. (Currently Amended) The motor according to claim 9, further comprising  
a constant-current source (36) controllable by the commutation logic unit (20), wherein  
~~the~~ control elements are implemented as bipolar transistors (60, 62) and the bases of those bipolar transistors are connected via a resistor (7) to the positive lead (30) of the DC link circuit, the current through the resistor (70) being determined by said constant-current source (36).

11. (Original) The motor according to claim 10, wherein  
the constant-current source (36) comprises a high-voltage-resistant transistor (66), connected as a constant-current source, the collector of which is connected to the resistor (70) and the base of which is connected to an output of the commutation logic unit (20).

12-17. (Cancelled)

18. (Currently Amended) The motor according to claim 1 ~~12~~,

wherein bipolar transistors (60, 62) controlled by a commutation logic unit (20) of the electric motor (10), are provided, in order to control the p-channel MOSFETs (50).

19. (Original) The motor according to claim 18,

wherein the bases of the bipolar transistors (60, 62) are connected via a resistor (70) to the positive lead (30) of the DC link circuit, the current through the resistor (70) being determined by a constant-current source (36) controllable by the commutation logic unit (20).

20. (Original) The motor according to claim 19, wherein

the constant-current source (36) comprises a high-voltage-resistant transistor (66), connected as a constant-current source, whose collector is connected to the resistor (70) and whose base is connected to the commutation logic unit (20).